

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The above amendments are made without prejudice. The newly added claims have been redrafted to more clearly define the subject matter of the invention. No new matter has been added.

Drafting corrections were required in an Official Action, to include text labels of essential numbered elements. Applicants do not consider that drawing figures require textual labels for any of the elements described in the specification and identified by an identification numeral, and Applicants respectfully request the basis of such requirement. Nevertheless, and to advance prosecution, Applicants submit herewith a drawing correction with the suggested labels.

In view of the new claims, it is respectfully submitted that the features recited therein distinguish the cited reference to Greene et al.

The present invention as claimed recites the selection of an appropriate material that is capable of transferring at least some of the heat provided by the predetermined wavelength of light to an interface between the material and the waveguide. That is, the presently claimed invention transfers heat to the interface between the waveguide and the material, and this heat causes a permanent change in the material at the interface and thereby changes the relative stresses at the interface to substantially compensate for birefringence.

In contradistinction, Greene et al. fail to disclose the concept of the material being arranged to transfer the heat to the interface between the material and the waveguide so as to minimize optically induced alterations of the waveguide whilst the device is exposed to the predetermined wavelength of light.

New independent Claim 23 is included to recite the feature of varying the inherent stresses at the interface between the material and the waveguide.

Greene et al. fail to teach toward using this feature to vary the inherent stresses at the interface between the material and the waveguide.

Rather Greene et al. are concerned purely with modifying compaction in both the outer cladding material and in the waveguide. No consideration is given to the cladding material being chosen such that the heat is transferred to the interface between the cladding material and the waveguide, wherein the transferred heat modifies the inherent stresses at the interface.

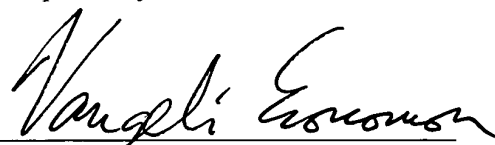
Support for this modification in stress at the interface can be found, for example, in the originally filed specification, at page 3 line 28 through page 4 line 3.

Independent Claim 24 is also submitted, which tracks somewhat original Claim 19, now cancelled. This independent claim 24 also includes the novel and inventive features described above.

It is considered that the newly submitted claims find support in the application specification as filed, and that the combination of elements recited in the pending claims distinguish over the references of record.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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